



State of California
Medical Board of California
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Memorandum

Date: April 18, 2012
To: Members
Medical Board of California
From: Barbara Yaroslavsky and Shelton Duruisseau, Board Members
Health Professions Education Foundation
Subject: Update on Loan Repayment Program Awardees: 2003-2005

The California Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program (program) was created in 2002, via legislation sponsored by the Medical Board of California (Board). This program encourages recently licensed physicians to practice in underserved locations in California by authorizing a plan for repayment of their educational loans, up to \$105,000, in exchange for their service in a designated underserved area for a minimum of three years.

While the immediate goal of the program was to provide improved access to healthcare in underserved communities during each physician's three-year obligation, the Board envisioned the three-year period would allow salaried physicians to grow roots in each respective community, remaining where they are working, even after the program's last payment was made. In the alternative, if the awardee left that specific practice setting, it was hoped the physician would have reduced the loan debt to such a level that service to underserved populations would remain a viable career choice.

The program was administered by the Board for three years and then was transitioned to the Health Professions Education Foundation (HPEF), a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation, which receives administrative support from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. While the Board regretted relinquishing administration of the program, the experience of HPEF staff in raising funds and administering similar programs best allowed the program to flourish.

At the February 2012 Board meeting, members asked if staff could ascertain the current practice settings for the awardees honored during the early years of the program. Even though we no longer have access to those records beyond the names of the awardees, staff researched current addresses of

record, Google, and other on-line information; we believe the following is a close-to-accurate representation of the awardees' current work sites:

2003 Award Cycle: 32 awardees

Still working in same practice setting: 15

Not at same location but appear to be working in an eligible practice setting: 8

Appear to be no longer working in eligible practice setting: 9

2004 Award Cycle: 18 awardees

Still working in same practice setting: 6

Not at same location but appear to be working in an eligible practice setting: 7

Appear to be no longer working in eligible practice setting: 5

2005 Award Cycle: 19 awardees

Still working in same practice setting: 6

Not at same location but appear to be working in an eligible practice setting: 9

Appear to be no longer working in eligible practice setting: 4

We trust this information is helpful in addressing the question raised at the last Board meeting.